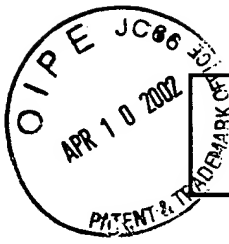


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April 10, 2002
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF
RETO NAEF

Examiner: Mina Haghighatian
Art Unit: 1619

APPLICATION NO: 09/883,572

FILED: JUNE 18, 2001

FOR: CGMP PDE 5 INHIBITORS FOR INHALATION IN THE TREATMENT
OF SEXUAL DYSFUNCTION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Sir:

The Office Action of December 6, 2002 has a shortened statutory time set to expire on March 6, 2002. A two-month extension is hereby requested pursuant to 37 CFR §1.136(a).

Please charge Deposit Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis Corporation in the amount of \$ 400 for payment of the extension fee. An additional copy of this paper is here enclosed. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 CFR §1.17 which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis Corporation.

Novartis Corporation
Patent and Trademark Dept.
564 Morris Avenue
Summit, NJ 07901-1027

Date: April 10, 2002

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Loeschorn
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 35,590
Phone No. (908) 522-6932